REMARKS

The application now includes claims 6-10, 16-20 and 22-24. Claims 6, 7, 16, 17, and 23 have been amended, and new claim 24 (which is similar to claims 7 and 17) has been added.

Claims 6-10, 16-20, and 22-23 have been rejected as being obvious over a combination of U.S. Patent 6,310,962 to Chung in view of U.S. Patent 6,374,036 to Ryan. This rejection is traversed.

The present invention includes a circuit which detects said electronic watermark from said original image data along with the value of said bit-data for which is defined a plurality of instructions, and a table file including one of said instructions for said value of bit-data. With reference to Figure 5 of the application where the value in the low order 4 bits is paired with an instruction. For exemplary purposes, refer to Figures 5-7 of the application where the value of the bit-data 0001 designates "Display Advertisement of Company A" (Figure 5); "Access http://abc" (Figure 6); and "Start Application A" (Figure 7). Figure 10 shows the instructions relate to bit data in the low order four bits of the electronic water mark which is undefined.

Independent claims 6, 16, and 23, and dependent claims 7, 17, and 24 specifically reflect these features of the invention, and, as previously discussed, none of the prior art includes these features. Specifically, Figure 3 of Ryan (referenced by the Examiner) presents a table of characteristics in a dual watermark system (see column 4, lines 16-17). That is, as explained in column 9 of Ryan, when WM1 and WM2 each have certain attributes, and copying is permitted only when WM1 has a copy once bit set and WM2 is valid. Ryan does not show or suggest detecting the electronic watermark along with the value of bit data for which is defined a plurality of instructions, and performing a processing according to the instruction obtained from a table file which includes instructions for different values of the bit data. Rather, Figure 3 of Ryan shows a WM1 with a specific instruction (i.e., there is no table file of instructions paired to values of bit data where one of those instructions is then performed). Further, Figure 3 of Ryan shows comparing different results of two different watermarks, WM1 and WM2, to determine what action, if any, is taken. Further, Ryan does not make obvious

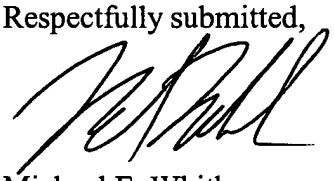
using the eight bit data as the water mark and bit data being four bit data in the low order four bits of the electronic watermark as is set forth in dependent claims 7, 17, and 24. Chung does not make up for any of the deficiencies of Ryan. Rather, Chung is related to encoding and decoding watermarks in MPEG pictures, and does not show detecting the electronic watermark along with the value of bit data for which is defined a plurality of instructions, and performing a processing according to the instruction obtained from a table file which includes instructions for different values of the bit data, or using the eight bit data as the water mark and bit data being four bit data in the low order four bits of the electronic watermark.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of claims 6-10, 16-20, and 22-24 at an early date is requested.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

A provisional petition is hereby made for any extension of time necessary for the continued pendency during the life of this application. Please charge any fees for such provisional petition and any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-2041 (Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson, P.C.).

Respectfully submitted,



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